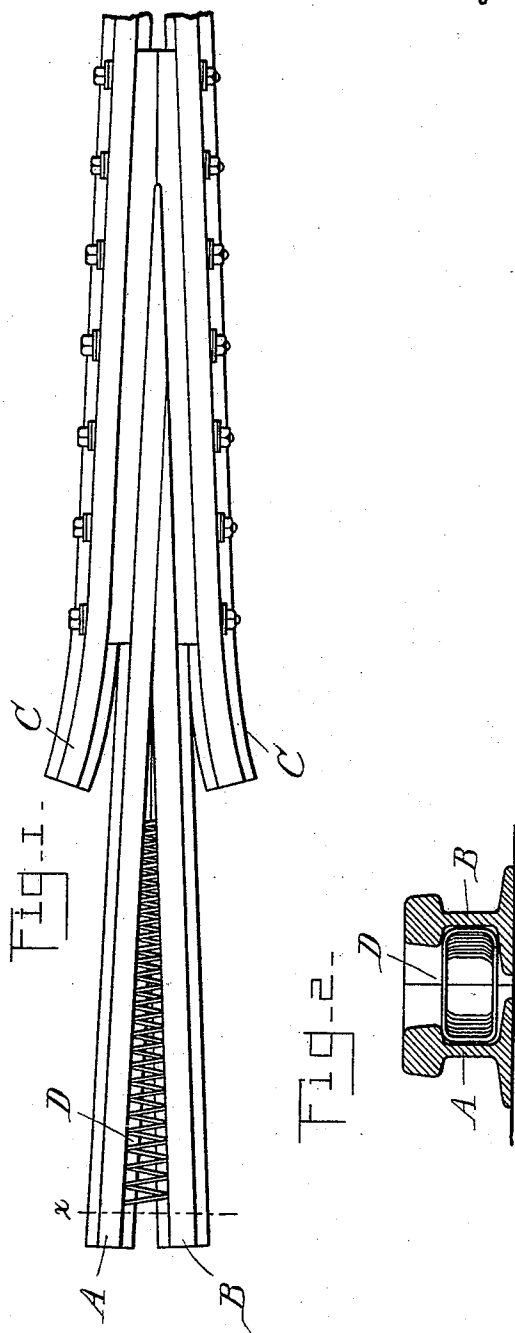


(No Model.)

C. H. TRIPHAGEN.
FOOT GUARD FOR RAILWAY FROGS.

No. 498,199.

Patented May 23, 1893.



Witnesses:
C. F. Barthel,
Wm. D. Ogherly

Inventor,
Charles H. Triphagen
By *Wm. D. Ogherly*
Atty's.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. TRIPHAGEN, OF PORTLAND, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO WILLIAM W. TERREFF AND CLAUDE L. RAMSEY, OF SAME PLACE.

FOOT-GUARD FOR RAILWAY-FROGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 498,199, dated May 23, 1893.

Application filed June 1, 1892. Serial No. 435,180. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. TRIPHAGEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Portland, in the county of Ionia and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Foot-Guards for Railway-Frogs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

The invention consists in the construction of a foot guard for railway frogs, &c., of wire or other light strips bent spirally into a tapering form adapted to be forced between the meeting ends of the rails to prevent the trapping therein of the feet of people passing along the track.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a railway frog showing my device applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a cross section on line $x x$ in Fig. 1.

A and B are the two track rails.

C are the guard rails at the side of the track.

In the tapering opening formed by the meeting of the T rails A and B, it has heretofore been the practice to place a wooden block or blocks of other material to prevent the foot from being caught in this wedge shaped space. This block has to be fitted to the space, is constantly breaking or rotting and is therefore a continual source of trouble and expense in the maintenance of railroads. I intend to use in place of such a block a bent wire frame D of suitable shape to fit between the rails A and B and to extend back from the point a suf-

ficient distance to prevent the possibility of any one's foot being caught between; this frame I preferably make of wire bent spirally and tapering from one end to the other, as shown in the drawings, so as to fit tightly between the foot and head of the rail, as more clearly shown in Fig. 2.

Instead of using wire I may use thin strips of wrought iron or steel. When the frame has been forced into position between the rails it will be held from vertical displacement by the head of the rail and a nail or spike may be placed at the rear end to prevent longitudinal displacement.

The device is light, easily removable for cleaning and is thoroughly efficient. In places where it cannot be forced into the V shaped opening it may be spiked down at two points or more.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A foot guard for railway frogs &c., consisting of a single strip of metal bent spirally into a substantially rectangular cross-section, substantially as described.

2. A foot guard for railway frogs &c., consisting of a tapering frame formed of a single strip of metal bent spirally, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES H. TRIPHAGEN.

Witnesses:

OSCAR N. JENKINS,
LEWIS F. CUTCHEON.